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Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/688,672

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please amend the claims below by deleting items marked with a strikeout (i.e. ~~patent~~) or brackets (i.e., [patent]) and adding items marked with an underline (i.e. patent).

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A food dispenser comprising:

an enclosed container comprising a top portion, a base portion and a central portion intermediately therebetween, said top portion and said base portion each comprising a selectively openable and returnably resilient aperture for insertion and removal of food;

said top portion comprising a perimeter encircling a concavity, said concavity housing said aperture;

a plurality of ribs positioned on said container, said plurality of ribs provided for facilitating selective opening of said aperture; and

at least one item of food stored within said container, said at least one item of food capable of being inserted into said container and removed therefrom through said aperture.

4. (Previously Presented) A food dispenser comprising:

an enclosed container comprising a top portion, a base portion and a central portion intermediately therebetween, said top portion and said base portion each comprising a selectively

openable and returnably resilient aperture for insertion and removal of food;

said top portion comprising a perimeter encircling a concavity, said concavity housing said aperture, said perimeter comprising a relatively planar configuration for placement of said top portion in a free standing position;

a plurality of ribs positioned on said container, said plurality of ribs provided for facilitating selective opening of said aperture; and

at least one item of food stored within said container, said at least one item of food capable of being inserted into said container and removed therefrom through said aperture.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

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16. (Previously Presented) A food dispenser comprising:

an enclosed container comprising a top portion, a base portion and a central portion intermediately therebetween, said top portion and said base portion each comprising a selectively openable and returnably resilient aperture for insertion and removal of food;

said top portion having a perimeter encircling a concavity housing said aperture; and

at least one item of food stored within said container, said at least one item of food capable of being inserted into said container and removed therefrom through said aperture.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The food dispenser as in Claim 3, 4[[, 8]]or 16, wherein said base portion comprises a perimeter encircling a concavity, said concavity housing said aperture.

20. (Previously Presented) The food dispenser of Claim 19, wherein said perimeter comprises a relatively planar configuration for placement of said base portion in a free standing position.

21. (Currently Amended) The food dispenser as in Claim 3, 4[[, 8]]or 16, wherein said central portion comprises a front wall and a rear wall opposite said front wall, and opposing lateral sides therebetween, said central portion tapered from a wide width adjacent to said top portion to a narrow width adjacent to said base portion.

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22. (Previously Presented) The food dispenser of Claim 21, wherein said ribs are formed on said lateral sides adjacent said aperture operating in conjunction with said top portion to selectively said aperture in said top portion.

23. (Previously Presented) The food dispenser of Claim 21, wherein said ribs are formed on said lateral sides adjacent said aperture operating in conjunction with said base portion to selectively said aperture in said base portion.

24. (Currently Amended) The food dispenser as in Claim 3, 4[[, 8]]or 16, further comprising means for securing said dispenser to an object to facilitate transport of said dispenser.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The food dispenser as in Claim 3, 4[[, 8]]or 16, wherein said dispenser is fabricated from a relatively soft, pliable polymeric material.